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Monitoring of population programmes focusing on new trends in migration: demographic aspects

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted in response to decision 2011/101 adopted by the Commission on Population and Development at its forty-fourth session, in which it was decided that the special theme of the forty-sixth session, in 2013, would be "New trends in migration: demographic aspects".

The report examines the programmatic response of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) at the global, regional and country levels to the new trends in migration. The focus of the report is on international migration, including the Fund's work in the areas of global advocacy, capacity development, policy dialogue, data and research and awareness raising.

International migration is a global issue, and a central part of the global development agenda. It presents both opportunities for, and challenges to, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The growth and diversity of current migration flows clearly demonstrate that migration can no longer be considered peripheral to mainstream population and development policy. There is an emerging consensus that migration issues must figure prominently in the post-2015 development discourse.

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Today, migration affects nearly every country in the world, either as point of origin, transit or destination, and often all three at once. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals and projections of the post-2015 future embrace migration as a force for development, rather than a development failure.

More detailed research on the linkages between migration and development as well as increased availability of age and sex-disaggregated migration data are essential for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation. Research in key areas such as the root causes of migration, the development impact of migration, the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment and labour migration in a globalized economy is also essential in order to enhance understanding of the migration process and contribute to better migration governance.

The 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development is a perfect opportunity to ensure that the issue of migration figures prominently in all discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in response to decision 2011/101, adopted by the Commission on Population and Development at its forty-fourth session, in which it was decided that the special theme of the forty-sixth session of the Commission, in 2013, would be "New trends in migration: demographic aspects".

2. The report highlights recent migration-related programmatic activities of UNFPA at the global, regional and country levels in response to the growing demands posed by new trends in migration. The report focuses on international migration, including the Fund's activities in the areas of global advocacy, capacity development, policy dialogue, data and research and awareness raising. UNFPA is currently undertaking a mapping of migration activities at country level to better inform institutional policy and to enable the sharing of good practices.

3. International migration is an integral aspect of the global development process. Migrants play an important role in promoting development and reducing poverty in countries of origin, as well as contributing towards prosperity in countries of destination. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries.

4. International migration has important implications for population dynamics, gender and young people, and it is thus a part of the core mandate of UNFPA. The increased focus on the interlinkages between migration, poverty reduction and development is having a significant impact on the work of UNFPA in a number of key areas.

5. Among issues of particular concern to UNFPA are: the challenges of female migration, including trafficking and smuggling; the provision of basic social services, including reproductive health services, in areas of destination; protection of the human rights of migrants; migration and the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS; migration and climate change; migration and young people; and migration statistics.

6. UNFPA strategies in these areas include developing capacity for formulating and implementing migration policies and programmes, building a knowledge base, improving migration data, facilitating policy dialogue and strengthening partnerships to enhance understanding of the complexity of international migration flows and their links to development.

7. Migration is an important component of UNFPA-led consultations on population dynamics in both the review of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and the post-2015 development agenda processes. The global survey of the International Conference beyond 2014 being conducted by UNFPA addresses both internal and international migration and requests information on national policies, programmes and strategies, institutional entities addressing migration issues, national priorities, areas of progress, civil society partners and international cooperation. The survey provides Governments with an opportunity to reflect on progress in this area and to identify the issues that should be the focus over the next 5 to 10 years. A report of the survey is expected to be completed in mid-2013.

8. Migration also features prominently in discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving development goals embrace migration as part of strategies to promote sustainable development. UNFPA collaborates with its partners to ensure that migration is an integral part of development.

II. Global advocacy

9. UNFPA is working with its partners to ensure that migration issues are given full consideration on the post-2015 agenda, either as a potential goal, indicative targets, indicators to measure the achievement of other Millennium Development Goals or as enabling factors. UNFPA seeks to raise awareness of the important link between migration and development and to increase understanding of how migration can contribute to the achievement of development goals, including poverty reduction, maternal and child health, primary education and gender empowerment. The Fund encourages countries to mainstream migration in their policymaking and development planning.

10. UNFPA is collaborating with its partners in preparation for the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, to be held during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly. At the recommendation of the High-level Committee on Programmes, and at the request of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), UNFPA and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the Global Migration Group, have prepared a set of draft outcomes and recommendations on migration in preparation for the High-level Dialogue. Member agencies of the High-level Committee, the Global Migration Group and the United Nations regional commissions, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants and the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration were invited to provide inputs that focused on a stocktaking of experiences since the first High-level Dialogue, held in 2006, in promoting the developmental aspects of international migration, providing a coherent inter-agency response to the opportunities and challenges of international migration and promoting the application of international standards and norms relevant to international migration and international migrants. The inputs highlighted good practices, challenges encountered, existing gaps, recommendations on how to overcome those gaps and suggested outcomes for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

11. UNFPA is also collaborating with IOM and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in convening informational meetings to help inform discussions and advance the global migration debate. The High-level Dialogue round-table series, which is led by IOM, is designed as a forum for the Permanent Missions of Member States in New York to consider the themes that will be discussed at the high-level dialogue: (a) assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework; (b) measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants, with particular reference to women and children, as well as to prevent and combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and to ensure regular, orderly and safe migration;

(c) strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and promote coherence at all levels; and (d) international and regional labour mobility and its impact on development. The round-table series, which began in October 2012 with a discussion of the global migration debate from the time of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development to the present, aims to prepare Member States for the High-level Dialogue by providing opportunities for discussion, the exchange of experiences, and networking with experts from Governments, the United Nations, the Global Migration Group, civil society and academia. The series also supports delegates in their consideration of migration in other relevant discussions, including the global survey of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and the post-2015 development processes.

III. Capacity development

12. Strengthening the capacity of countries to address the challenges of migration is one of the main priorities of the work of UNFPA in this area. The Fund's policy guidance note on international migration encourages its country offices to support the enhancement of national capacity to integrate migration issues into national and sectoral development policies, programmes, strategies and action plans, including poverty reduction strategies.

13. At the global level, UNFPA helps to increase understanding of migration issues within the United Nations community by collaborating with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), IOM and the MacArthur Foundation in convening seminars on key migration and development topics for delegates of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and representatives of the entities of the United Nations system. The seminars are intended to provide government officials and the international community with a better understanding of the relationship between migration and development and a forum for the discussion of issues of vital concern to countries of origin, transit and destination. Topics over the years have included: labour migration, female migration, migration and AIDS, migration and ageing, contributions of diasporas, environmentally-induced migration and climate change, migration and human rights, irregular migration, migration and the Millennium Development Goals, health challenges of migrant youth, countering human trafficking, regional consultative processes, migration and the economic crisis, migration data, migration profiles and the mainstreaming of migration into development planning. The seminar on migration profiles was convened as part of the thematic meetings held at the 2011 Global Forum on Migration and Development, which were co-chaired by the Governments of Ghana and the Republic of Moldova.

14. UNFPA is an active member of the Programme Management Unit of the European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative and continues, in partnership with the other members of the Initiative, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), IOM, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to set up and reinforce migration and development networks, identify good practices and inform policymaking on migration and development.

15. Together with IOM and other partners, UNFPA supports the efforts of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Observatory on Migration to foster the evidence base for mainstreaming the issue of migration into development and to enhance understanding of the impact of South-South migration on development for evidence-based policymaking and to mainstream the subject of human mobility into development planning.

16. At regional level, in partnership with the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, UNFPA and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) have conducted workshops on migration statistics targeting countries in Central Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States in order to identify gaps in the availability of data on international migrant stocks, flows and characteristics in the region, to raise awareness of the global and regional policy context and to provide training in global and regional data standards.

17. To build the capacity of national institutions in the collection and analysis of migration data and in policy formulation, UNFPA collaborated with ECE on its Development Account project aimed at strengthening national capacities to deal with international migrations, in particular at maximizing benefits and minimizing negative impact in a number of countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

18. To further strengthen the capacity of countries to address migration issues, UNFPA regional and country offices disseminated the publication of the Center for Global Development *Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data* to national statistical offices and research institutes, thus facilitating the collection of improved migration data for evidence-based policy formulation.

19. At national level, many UNFPA country offices support training and capacity development activities to ensure that countries are adequately prepared to address migration issues and have the knowledge and data they need to formulate appropriate migration policies.

20. In Kenya, UNFPA convened a training workshop on demographic and statistical analyses and policy-brief writing techniques for the authors of the 2009 monographs of the World Population and Housing Census Programme. After the training, 13 monographs, including monographs on migration and urbanization, for the use of policymakers and planners in programming and formulating the new development plans, were completed. In Sao Tome and Principe, personnel of the departments of immigration and borders were trained in the collection of international migration data.

21. The UNFPA country office in Bhutan collaborated with the National Statistics Bureau and the Gross National Happiness Commission to present a summary of the population perspective plan to the Prime Minister and raised awareness about the need to address population dynamics, including migration. The consultative process informed policymakers of the importance of addressing migration issues and its indicators for evidence-based planning. As a result, policymakers and planners from different ministries were made more aware of issues related to international migration and recommended that such matters be included in the formulation of a national population policy. UNFPA supported the provision of training to planning and statistics officers on the importance of demographic indicators and the use of statistics.

22. In Cambodia, the UNFPA country office continues to play a central role in promoting capacity development of its national counterparts through, inter alia, technical assistance, the provision of training and the sharing of experiences and lessons learned at the national and international levels, thus contributing to the further strengthening of data collection, analysis and utilization in support of policy and strategy development and the integration of priority population issues in existing policies and strategies for poverty reduction. Major capacity development activities targeted policymakers at both the national and subnational levels. At the national level, the office worked with the National Institute of Statistics and the General Directorate for Planning of the Ministry of Planning and contributed to the further strengthening of data collection, analysis and utilization in support of policy and strategy development and the integration of priority population issues in existing policies and strategies for poverty reduction. At the subnational planning level, the office cooperated with the provincial and district councils, commune councils and women's and children's consultative committees to strengthen their capacity to respond to the needs of communities in the areas of reproductive health, youth, gender-based violence and migration.

23. The UNFPA country office in the Islamic Republic of Iran supported the National Population Association and the National Statistical Centre in conducting a seminar on migration. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the UNFPA country office continued to support the Ministry of Planning and Investment in building its capacity to conduct population analyses.

24. The UNFPA subregional office in the Pacific supports analyses of migration based on census data and helps to strengthen capacity in this field by including national staff in its analytical work. Such work is currently planned in Solomon Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, and eventually it is intended to extend it to other Pacific Island countries as well.

25. The issue of international migration is high on the agenda of the Government of Kiribati, and national capacity development has largely been provided through policy dialogue, awareness raising and advocacy. UNFPA strategies and priorities in Kiribati continue to address high population growth and reversal of the high rate of rural to urban migration and the migration from the outer islands to the urban centre by providing more opportunities in the outer islands, in particular by strengthening government services and promoting small and medium-sized enterprises and sustainable livelihoods. In the review of the current Kiribati development plan 2008-2011 and the development of the new plan for 2012-2015 population displacement, migration and family planning have been given priority.

26. In Azerbaijan, UNFPA has trained key Government officials in ways to address the challenges arising from the lack of an efficient migration-related data collection and analysis system. Cooperation and coordination among relevant Government entities dealing with migration data have been improved. In addition, Government officials from key institutions responsible for migration data participated in training in Poland on the functioning of the European data management system and best practices in collecting, analysing and sharing migration data. In a survey on migration patterns, new tools and indicators were selected and tested and 15,000 individuals were familiarized with the data management system of the State Statistical Committee. The introduction of new tools and indicators have made it possible for the Committee and other key national authorities to better assess the

dynamics of migration in Azerbaijan based on more accurate and up-to-date data. The level of coordination and cooperation among key Government agencies has been improvised through the promotion of dialogue, the study of best international practices and relevant publications and the provision of training courses. The assessment of the national legal framework on migration-related data has enabled national authorities to review areas that required further improvement.

27. In Kyrgyzstan, staff members of the demographic statistics department of the National Statistics Committee participated in a course on population and development focused on skills improvement in a number of areas, including migration indicators. The course was organized by the UNFPA regional office and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. In Uzbekistan, several capacity development training courses for national partners have been conducted, including training on migration methodologies and analysis for research staff of the Institute of Social Research.

28. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the UNFPA country office has supported various activities to disseminate information and provide training and advocacy to strengthen organizations and to build and strengthen networks to implement the Migration Act, focusing, in particular, on promoting sexual and reproductive rights, including HIV/AIDS, and combating gender-based violence against women and young migrants. As a result of UNFPA support, the comprehensive sexual health programme of the Ministry of Health has initiated a registration system that includes data specific to the migrant population. In addition, UNFPA has supported the advocacy work of civil society organizations, thus contributing to the strengthening of migrants' rights. The UNFPA country office in Nicaragua has supported the training of officials on migration management and the management of migration data flows and has launched an information campaign on the subject of international migration.

IV. Policy dialogue

29. In a number of countries, national bodies have engaged in policy dialogue and have collaborated in formulating and reviewing national population policies, including international migration policies. For example, in Cameroon, UNFPA supported a national interministerial task force on international migration which considered the dividends provided by the Cameroonian diaspora. In Côte d'Ivoire, UNFPA was instrumental in the integration of a population and development section into the national poverty reduction strategy paper, including discussion of the implementation of a policy for managing migration.

30. The UNFPA country office in Mozambique collaborated in the finalization of a report of the national population policy and initiated the revision of the population policy in order to incorporate emerging thematic issues such as climate change, migration and urbanization.

31. In the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the UNFPA country office strengthened the policy dialogue between the Government and academic institutions, focusing on national population priorities. In addition, a policy dialogue with experts was conducted to discuss the national priority needs in the field of migration and a policy brief on external migration was drafted using data from the 2010 migration survey. Strengthened partnerships and policy dialogue between governmental and

academic institutions on population issues has enhanced the production of research and evidence-based tools on population dynamics related to youth, gender, migration and the elderly, which will inform national policies and programmes.

32. In the Sudan, the UNFPA country office supported the review of the national population policy, which addresses, inter alia, population dynamics, including international migration, urbanization and displacement. UNFPA supported technical thematic groups, the recruitment of national experts, the organization of consultative meetings and the production of thematic background papers. UNFPA also supported the participation of staff of the National Population Council in expert group meetings in conjunction with the regional meeting for directors of national population councils.

33. The Asia and the Pacific regional office is currently co-chairing, with the regional office of IOM, the working group on the organization of the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. At the UNFPA subregional office in Fiji, migration is an integral part of the Fund's work on population policies. UNFPA contributed to the formulation and endorsement of population policies for Vanuatu and Tuvalu, and is continuing its work on population policy for Solomon Islands. The Fund expects to expand this work to Fiji.

34. In Nepal, after the dissemination of the population perspective plan 2010-2031, there is growing realization among national stakeholders of the need to formulate a national population policy based on the new plan. To inform the policy, and to contribute to the ongoing debate on the relevance of the issues raised in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development for the country, UNFPA, in collaboration with the Population Division of the Ministry of Health and Population and the Association of Youth Organizations of Nepal (the Fund's implementing partner for youth programmes) has organized five national population debates on emerging population issues, including international migration and the economy, youth and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, urbanization and the environment and data/statistics for development and population policy.

35. The UNFPA country office in Azerbaijan has provided support to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population, the Government body directly involved in the planning, development and monitoring of population-related programmes and policies in the country, in the process of evaluating the State programme on population development and demography, including by identifying ways to regulate migration. In this way, UNFPA has supported the Government's efforts and commitment to advancing the agenda set out in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the country by linking its principles to national policies and programmes in the area of population and development.

36. UNFPA has also provided technical assistance to the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the review and revision of the country's strategy for demographic development, which includes specific goals and measures regarding migration.

37. The UNFPA country office in Guatemala has provided technical and financial assistance to the National Migrant Care Council in elaborating a general framework

for Government action regarding migration matters. The framework will be used in the formulation of a migrant care policy.

38. The Government of Jamaica has embarked upon the development of a migration policy to identify gaps in the country's response to migration as well as to identify the advantages to be obtained through enhanced engagement with the diaspora. The policy is significant because, while the population of Jamaica is approximately 2.7 million people, it is estimated that approximately 2.6 million Jamaicans live outside the country. The policy will provide guidance on how to optimize engagement with this significant population. A technical working group on migration has been established to identify the key issues that should be examined in the development of the national migration policy, and UNFPA has been actively participating in its work. The Fund has raised the subject of health services for migrant women and girls, in particular, as well as concerns relating to older persons who leave the country during their youth but return after retirement. This perspective has been articulated within the technical working group on migration and it will be reflected in the final policy.

39. In Mexico, one of the main results achieved regarding advocacy on population and development issues has been the establishment and strengthening of policy dialogue with federal institutions and local governments, particularly with the states of Chiapas, San Luis Potosi, Oaxaca and Puebla. Among the issues raised with government authorities are internal and international migration, population ageing, adolescence and youth, human trafficking and local development.

V. Data collection and research

40. Timely migration data are essential for policy formulation and programme planning. UNFPA encourages its country offices to support activities that promote the establishment and maintenance of reliable databases on migration and development and on cross-border movements between countries and geographic regions. The Fund encourages support for operational research that fosters increased understanding of migration processes, including female migration, addresses the needs of migrants, particularly sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, and carries out studies that focus on: (a) the relationship between migration and development; (b) the root causes of migration; (c) young people and the gender dimension of migration in a life cycle approach, including the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment; (d) labour migration in a globalized economy; (e) the impact of remittances; (f) the role of the diaspora; (g) measures to prevent human trafficking, especially of women and girls; (h) ensuring the human rights of migrants; (i) addressing the challenges of irregular migration; and (j) the impact of migration on the environment.

41. Many UNFPA country offices support the collection and analysis of migration data and related research activities. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa, the UNFPA country office in Cameroon has presented a number of discussion papers on the challenges of data availability in migration analysis. In Namibia, UNFPA has commissioned a baseline study on youth migration and in Nigeria, the Fund has worked with its partners to support country-level capacities for improved migration-related data, with a view to augmenting evidence-based policymaking.

42. The UNFPA country offices in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Niger, Nigeria and Chad are collaborating to address cross-country population dynamics in the Lake Chad Basin region. A study on the demographic aspects of HIV-AIDS seroprevalence in the Lake Chad Basin was conducted as a baseline as part of the development of a programme to combat HIV. Because of the population migration between countries, it would have been pointless to conduct the study in the individual countries. To address this issue, the country offices acted as facilitators for the coordination of the studies by the national counterparts in their respective countries. This collaboration resulted in a study that incorporated the migration dynamics in the region as well as data on all the countries involved. The study analyses the link between migration dynamics and HIV infection in the region. It is expected that the programme developed on the basis of the study will be applied in efforts to address the issue in the region.

43. The UNFPA regional office in the Arab States is collaborating with the MEDSTAT programme of the European Union, the World Bank, UNHCR and other partners in the Mediterranean Household International Migration Survey, which covers eight States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia. The survey addresses various forms of international migration, including voluntary and forced migration, and its implications for migrants, their households and sending and receiving countries. The UNFPA regional office and the Fund's country offices are supporting the survey technically and financially.

44. In Jordan, UNFPA is continuing its discussions with national partners on improving the availability of data on migration. The country office seeks to strengthen partnerships with other United Nations agencies working in this area, and with IOM, and to ensure access to qualified expertise in migration that is responsive to national needs and aware of the sensitivities in the region. UNFPA and the Higher Population Council advocated the establishment of two committees to improve the quality of data on migration and population projections. The two committees, which are now very active, have reviewed all issues related to migration in Jordan and have produced a report that will be published soon.

45. In Morocco, the results of a study on international migration and development analysed the following issues: illegal migration, return migration, the brain drain and international migration and development. UNFPA provides leadership to the national migration thematic group in its consideration of migration, both internal and international.

46. In 2010, the UNFPA country office in the Occupied Palestinian Territory supported the first national household survey on internal and international migration, which was conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. Other activities supported by UNFPA include the production of the reports on the national migration survey, including the main findings and analysis, the organization of a policy dialogue to discuss the survey findings conducted by the Population Policy Department within the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development, the dissemination and production of a user-friendly data file for use by academia and research institutes and the production of a policy paper on international migration.

47. The Asia and the Pacific regional office produced a report entitled "Socio-cultural influences on the reproductive health of migrant women: a review of

literature in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam", which explores the nexus between sociocultural factors, health seeking behaviour and access to sexual and reproductive health information and services among migrants in four countries of the region. In a key finding, the report reveals that migrant women's reproductive health needs are being neglected. A focus on sociocultural factors is essential to an understanding of the multiple factors impacting migrant women's behaviour and their health-care preferences. The report makes recommendations on how policymakers, employers and service providers can better address the reproductive health needs of migrant women.

48. The Asia and the Pacific regional office is a member of the Thematic Working Group on Migration co-chaired by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and IOM. As a collaborative effort with 16 other regional offices of the United Nations, the UNFPA regional office supported the development of a situation report on international migration in South and South-West Asia, which provides country overviews on the migration situation, as well as thematic chapters on regional migration trends and issues from eight different perspectives, namely, environment and climate change, gender, health, labour migration, policy and international cooperation, protection of the rights of migrant workers, refugees and stateless persons and remittances.

49. The UNFPA country office in Cambodia assisted in incorporating migration questions into the 2008 census questionnaire as well as with the analysis, report writing and dissemination of the findings. UNFPA was also involved in the comprehensive study on rural-urban migration that sought to examine the characteristics of migrants and investigate the linkages between migration and the welfare of individuals, families and communities. The findings and recommendations of the study will facilitate the development of an overall strategy to meet the challenge of rapid migration and the formulation of development policies aiming at achieving the betterment of Cambodian society. There are plans to do a secondary in-depth analysis on other topics (education, gender, ageing) affected by migration using available data as well as a follow-up survey to study the impact of migration.

50. The UNFPA country office in Mongolia provided technical and financial support to the 2010 Population and Housing Census. In addition, the capacity of the National Statistical Office, and particularly that of the Census Bureau, was improved through the use of Geographical Information Systems in order to provide spatial information on population and housing down to the soum or khoroo (an equivalent of a county) level, using an online method to include Mongolian citizens living abroad. A post-enumeration survey to validate census results and an analysis of census data by key population issues such as migration and gender were also carried out.

51. In Thailand, UNFPA, with the involvement of key stakeholders, supported the work of the National Statistical Office by carrying out an in-depth analysis of cross-border migration based on census data. In the Pacific region, the Fund's migration-related activities are focused primarily on in-depth analyses of migration based on census data. A migration monograph is being finalized in Solomon Islands, monographs are planned for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands and migration profiles are planned for the Cook Islands. There are plans to gradually increase involvement in vital statistics, including the provision of support

for population registers in selected countries, which is expected to greatly increase available data on migration.

52. In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, the UNFPA regional office continues its collaboration with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) on migration statistics, including capacity-building, facilitating data exchange among countries, support for the ECE clearinghouse establishment and operation and raising the level of awareness of policymakers regarding the role of migration in national development. The integration of a complex migration agenda as part of the programme of work of the Commission on Population and Development contributed to the implementation of the European Union Action Plan on Visa Liberalization by the Republic of Moldova. In Uzbekistan, UNFPA supported the participation of staff of the National Statistical Office in meetings on migration statistics and censuses.

53. In Latin America and the Caribbean, with sponsorship from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, UNPFA worked with Governments and strategic partners in the region on the initiative for sexual and reproductive health care for migrant youths and women, which is aimed at placing the themes of sexual and reproductive health care, including HIV/AIDS, and sexual violence affecting migrant youth and women on the public agenda as a right that goes beyond borders. The work promotes binational and cross-sectoral work between Argentina and Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia and Ecuador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, and Haiti and the Dominican Republic in order to improve migrants' access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and to strengthen programmes for the prevention of sexually transmitted infections/HIV and AIDS and gender-based violence. Regional and binational studies on the sexual and reproductive health of the migrant population in highly vulnerable border areas helped to identify needs and obstacles to progress in this area, and helped to inform the development of strategies to promote the human rights of migrant youth and women and improve their access to sexual and reproductive health services. The creation of binational commissions as coordination mechanisms at borders stimulated the exchange of information, the identification of intervention zones, the preparation of policies, the integration of associations of civil society and Governments and the establishment of care services. With the participation of governmental and civil society institutions, border and cross-border cooperation networks for the design of health policies, the development and implementation of sexual and reproductive health-care strategies and the monitoring and evaluation of policies have been strengthened.

54. The Latin America and Caribbean regional office supported the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the area of migration, including the update of the regional migration database, the Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA), with census information from Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). ECLAC collaborated with IOM in assisting the Department of Foreign Affairs and Migration of Chile in its discussion of a project on migration law and collaborated with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, the European Union, IOM and the Chilean Government in the preparation of a workplan to elaborate a statistical compendium on migration. UNFPA participated in a number of regional migration meetings held in Chile, including the twelfth South American Conference on Migration, the first meeting on migration in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and the

seminar on cities, migration and human rights, which addressed international migration and refugees, and took part in the third International Congress on Poverty, Migration and Development, held in Mexico.

55. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the UNFPA country office supported the preparation of a report entitled "Health and international migration: Bolivian women in Argentina", which promoted the development of the more efficient design and implementation of public policies to improve access and quality of care for migrant populations. In Colombia, UNFPA collaborated with the National Statistical Department in training a technical team on the use of tools and new technologies for the production of population projections at the national and subnational levels. In addition, the technical capacities of the Department in the use of administrative registries as inputs for the generation of statistical information on international migration were strengthened. UNFPA also provided support to ensure the completion of the design and application of a methodology for estimating international migration flows.

56. In the Dominican Republic, UNFPA, in conjunction with the National Statistical Office and the Ministry of Planning and Development, led a study on internal and international migration. UNFPA also sponsored an updated study on the trafficking and exploitation of foreign migrant women. UNFPA assisted in the country's first national immigrants survey which was supported by the European Union and the UNFPA country office in Haiti. The Fund also supported the National Statistics Office by: providing technical assistance for the methodological design and survey sample selection; implementing a training and skill-building programme for supervisors, surveyors, facilitators, interpreters and quality control teams; and monitoring the field work, the elaboration of the final and complimentary reports and the design of the lobbying strategy. In addition, UNFPA promoted the creation of a socio-demographic information system, including data on poverty, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender violence, and migration, disaggregated by age and gender at the local level. UNFPA participated in the seminar on international migration and development organized by the Ministry of Haitians Living Abroad and other partners.

57. The UNFPA country office in Haiti supported two internal and international surveys after the 2010 earthquake. In addition, UNFPA supported the Government in the preparation of the poverty reduction strategy paper in the area of population dynamics, including international migration.

58. The UNFPA country office in Mexico continues to collaborate on international migration issues with several partners at the federal and state levels. At the national level, the country office supported the development of indicators and case studies, including updates on the situation and trends of international migration flows in Mexico, indicators on the reception and use of remittances at the household level, economic and social factors associated with international migration in communities of origin and destination and the impact of international migration on the health of migrants and their families as well as policy analysis of the employment, education and health sectors linked to migrants' needs. At the state level, UNFPA supported the creation of information systems on migration, especially in the main states of origin. The UNFPA country office also supports projects on the analysis of economic determinants of migration from Mexico to the United States of America and a subnational study on the population and development factors along the southern

border of Mexico, a key area for migration flows from Central America into the United States.

VI. Awareness raising

59. A number of UNFPA country offices have undertaken advocacy and awareness raising activities to raise the profile of the subject of international migration. Some country offices used the UNFPA 7 Billion Actions campaign to advance demographic issues, including migration. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa, the commemoration of the World Population Day and the launch of *The State of World Population* report in Botswana, both of which focused on the fact that the world has surpassed the 7 billion milestone, raised awareness of the interlinkages between population and development and spurred discussion of the implications of population growth, migration and other population dynamics in relation to development in the context of Botswana. The events were attended by policymakers, including ministers, parliamentarians, district commissioners, development partners, civil society organizations and private sector institutions.

60. In Senegal, UNFPA worked on relieving the root causes of migration of young people through advocacy efforts by all partners under the auspices of IOM. The migration profile of Senegal facilitated the development of strategies for keeping young people in their homelands. The UNFPA country office in Uganda supported the first-ever national population conference, which produced recommendations to address key population issues related to the demographic bonus in the sectors of education, health, housing and urban development and immigration.

61. In Papua New Guinea, the UNFPA country office supported the preparation of a radio drama by the Population Media Centre on the Millennium Development Goals and relevant population issues, in particular the effects of international migration, urbanization, health issues such as HIV and reproductive health and the impact of climate change on the daily life. The scriptwriters received training on how to integrate social issues related to population and development into a dramatic script. The experience showed the importance of advocacy aimed at decision makers and legislators in ensuring that the issue of international migration is incorporated into development plans.

62. In the Dominican Republic, UNFPA undertook lobbying efforts for the migrant regularization plan. The country office played a very active role along with IOM, UNHCR, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UNDP in negotiations to guarantee the rights of migrants within the plan. In Guatemala, UNFPA conducted advocacy work to facilitate the process of elaborating the national policy on migration.

VII. Other initiatives

63. As Chair of the Global Migration Group for the period January to June 2008, UNFPA initiated a collaborative effort to analyse the challenges of protecting the human rights of international migrants, which resulted in the publication, *International Migration and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities on the Threshold of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*

The report stresses the fact that migrants are human beings with rights, which States, exercising their sovereign right to determine who enters and remains in their territory, have an obligation to protect. It underscores the fact that fundamental human rights are non-negotiable and that an individual's immigration status is irrelevant in this respect. International migration, development and human rights are inextricably linked. Respect for the fundamental rights of migrants is an essential prerequisite for countries wishing to reap the full benefits of migration.

64. UNFPA has taken the lead in conducting an inventory of impact assessments of international migration projects and programmes on development carried out by the member agencies of the Global Migration Group. The purpose of the exercise is to raise awareness of the importance of assessing the impact of migration projects and programmes in order to ensure that resources are used as effectively and efficiently as possible. The inventory revealed that member agencies of the Group carried out projects that addressed a wide range of migration issues, including labour migration, temporary and circular migration, return and reintegration, highly skilled migration/brain drain, the cost of migration, diaspora engagement, refugees, reintegration and resettlement, remittance transfers, combating human trafficking, migrant integration, migrant health and migration statistics. While most agencies conducted evaluations of their projects they did not conduct impact assessments. The evaluations were typically part of the monitoring and evaluation exercise of the logical framework or donor reporting.

65. UNFPA has joined a new initiative, the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, under the leadership of the World Bank. As a member of the initiative, UNFPA plans to participate in the working group focusing on the core set of indicators for migration profiles, the multiple indicator cluster survey, web-based training materials/modules and capacity-building. The Fund expects to contribute to future working groups that address demographic changes, climate change, migrants' rights and social aspects of migration.

66. UNFPA collaborates with other United Nations agencies in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in order to ensure that population dynamics, including migration, are addressed in the climate change discourse, in the conviction that migration policies and measures to address displacement must be part of adaptation strategies.

67. The UNFPA country office in Panama, in collaboration with IOM, UNICEF and UNDP, are seeking the support of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security for a 36-month programme that aims to improve human security of Ngöbe and Buglé temporary migrants in Costa Rica and Panama, particularly in the areas of economic, food, health, personal, community and political security, through the empowerment and promotion of better access to improved culture and gender-sensitive public services. The direct beneficiaries of this initiative will include some 10,000 Ngöbe and Buglé migrants along their entire migratory route.

68. UNFPA country offices collaborate in mainstreaming pilot exercises in Bangladesh, Jamaica, the Republic of Moldova and Tunisia to ensure that migration forms part of their national development plans and strategies. Other countries that are members of the United Nations country team migration theme group also collaborate on migration issues.

VIII. Conclusion

69. International migration is a global issue and it must be a central part of the global development agenda. It presents both opportunities for and challenges to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The growth and diversity of current migration flows clearly demonstrate that migration can no longer be considered peripheral to the mainstream of population and development policy.

70. Today, migration affects nearly every country in the world, either as point of origin, transit or destination, and often all three at once. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries. The globalization of markets, shortages and surpluses of labour, easier transportation and communication and conflicts are other factors that have contributed to the size and complexity of migration flows. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals embrace migration as a development force, not a development failure.

71. More detailed research on migration and development linkages, together with an increased availability of age and sex-disaggregated migration data, are essential for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation. Research in key areas such as the root causes of migration, the development impact of migration, the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment and labour migration in a globalized economy is also essential in order to enhance our understanding of the migration process and to help countries promote the orderly flow of migration to maximize the benefits and minimize the negative consequences of migration for countries of origin and destination as well as for the migrants themselves.

72. The 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development is a perfect opportunity to ensure that the issue of migration figures prominently in all discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda.

73. The Fund is committed to working with Governments, entities of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and civil society to improve migration data, facilitate policy dialogue, develop capacity to formulate and implement migration policies and programmes and strengthen partnerships in order to enhance understanding of the complexity of migration flows and their links to development. The Fund will continue to advocate for the provision of the full range of health services for migrants, particularly female migrants, including services for reproductive health and for individuals with HIV/AIDS. UNFPA will continue to work to ensure that migration issues are an integral part of the post-2015 development agenda.